

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Cynthia Nicholson on May 23, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

In claim 23, line 3, "second engaged" has been changed to -- second engagement --.

In claim 28, line 3, "second engaged" has been changed to -- second engagement --.

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 10-12 directed to an invention non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 10-12 been cancelled.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The abstract has been rewritten as follows:

A cap device having a tether mechanism which is used to link a fuel cap to a fueling lid. The tether mechanism includes an elongate tether having on one end a detent and on the opposite end a vehicle attachment component and an engaged component adjacent the attachment component.

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2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robin Hylton whose telephone number is (571) 272-4540. The examiner can normally be reached Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Stashick, can be reached on (571) 272-4561.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Other helpful telephone numbers are listed for applicant's benefit:

- Allowed Files & Publication (888) 786-0101
- Assignment Branch (800) 972-6382
- Certificates of Correction (703) 305-8309
- Fee Questions (571) 272-6400
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- Petitions/special Programs (571) 272-3282
- Information Help line 1-800-786-9199
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GAU 3781